

# THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

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BLOOMFIELD, N. J., SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1904.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## TAX APPEALS HEARD

THE MEMBERS OF THE STATE BOARD OF TAXATION.

Black's Petition for a Reduction of Taxation, heard by the State Board of Taxation, held in the Council room here on Tuesday. Messrs. Lantz and Black were the only two members present.

Orange case, a Glen Ridge case, about a dozen local cases were heard by the board.

The Orange case was that of Miss Beard, who conducts a boarding school on Berkeley avenue, and claimed that her property was used as a school, and was present at her counsel, former City Clerk A. Dugan of Orange. City Council A. Lord, accompanied by Messrs. Harrington of Orange, opposed the claim on the ground that part of the school is used as a dwelling house.

Miss Beard admitted this, but said one child who is a scholar boarded with her, and it was, therefore, a part of the school. The board reserved its decision. The Glen Ridge case was the appeal of the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company against an assessment of \$15,000 levied on the company's plant in the borough. Frank S. Benson of Mr. McMahon of Riker & Riker, presented the borough, and Mr. Benson was present for the company. Benson contended that Mr. Johnson's assessment was a fair valuation of the company's property. The company's counsel was willing to concede an increase over the previous year's assessment, but nothing like the assessment. The point for the State Board to pass upon was the increase to be allowed in the assessment.

The company allowed a reduction of ten cents per lineal foot as a concession. Mr. Benson contended that the figure named was excessive. As the case required the production of testimony showing the value of the plant, and as Mr. Cameron had not prepared to present evidence, the case was held over.

Assistant County Prosecutor Wilbur Mott represented the town before the State Board, and Edwin A. Rayner represented the appellants. The following is a list of the local cases before the board showing the amount assessed by the Board of Assessors for the year 1903, and the reduction asked for, and also the reductions made by the Board of Assessors below the year 1902:

Assessed	Wanted	Reduction
In 1903	Reduced from 1902	Levy
W. F. Farnham, \$1,250	\$200	
W. F. Farnham, 3,300	3,700	300
W. F. Farnham, 3,700	2,500	50
W. F. Farnham, 3,700	2,500	50
W. F. Farnham, 450	200	
W. F. Farnham, 1,300	1,100	50
W. F. Farnham, 450	300	50
W. F. Farnham, 400	200	50
W. F. Farnham, 100	50	100
W. F. Farnham, 1,000	800	
W. F. Farnham, 350	200	
W. F. Farnham, 2,000	1,400	100
W. F. Farnham, 1,500	600	
W. F. Farnham, 2,400	2,150	
W. F. Farnham, 2,300	1,500	200
W. F. Farnham, 2,300	1,500	
W. F. Farnham, 1,000	1,100	50
W. F. Farnham, 2,400	2,000	
W. F. Farnham, 1,500	100	100
W. F. Farnham, 1,500	100	50
W. F. Farnham, 900	400	
W. F. Farnham, 1,300	800	50
W. F. Farnham, 550	300	

The State Board took all the cases for consideration, and will make their decision next week. The general opinion of the majority of the board was that with about two exceptions the Bloomfield cases will be allowed.

## THE COUNTRY AND ITS SOLDIERS

The following letter is addressed to the Civics Federation's Standing Committee on Dependents:

Whenever an American stands transfixed in wonder and admiration before the famous picture in Faneuil Hall, Boston, representing Webster in the Senate vindicating our national integrity, he notices an attentive listener depicted in the foreground with his head resting on his hand. That statesman was the first Senator from the State of Maine—the Hon. Peter Sprague—who, when a member of the House of Representatives from Massachusetts, on the 25th of April, 1836, had championed the cause of the surviving soldiers of the American Revolution in a speech which deserves especial consideration at the present time, when again the advocates of a parsimonious policy toward the saviors of our Union thrust themselves into public notice. Our space only admits of the two following extracts from a speech replete with arguments equally applicable to the Union veterans:

"They dispersed and departed for their homes in every part of your wide domain, unrewarded, penniless, carrying with them nothing but the proud consciousness of the purity and dignity of their conduct and a firm reliance upon their country's honor and their country's faith. And what return has been made to them? Have they not found your high-blown honor a painted bubble and your plighted faith a broken reed? Have not those dark predictions of your ingratitude, which you then indignantly repelled as slanders foul and false, at which you were ready to exclaim: 'Is this servant a dog, that he should do this thing?'—have they not been too much realized? Have not the petitions of the soldiers of the Revolution been disregarded? Have they not grown old in poverty? Do they not now owe the miserable remnant of their lives to charity? Sir, if we charge not our conduct towards them, it must crimson with shame the fount of history."

"Yet gentlemen tell us that this law (of 1815) so administered is too liberal; that it goes too far, and they would repeal it. They would take back the little which they had given. And is this possible? Let us broaden upon this wide extended field of its wealth, its happiness, and then turn to the aged and feeble, who gave you all and see him doleful and old seventy years ago, some of them."

PROTECT your securities and valuable papers against FIRE and BURGLARS by renting a box in the Safe Deposit Vaults of The Bloomfield National Bank. Boxes to rent at \$4.00 per year and upwards. Adv.

## PATRIOTIC ADDRESS.

America's Place Among the Nations a Theme that Aroused the Enthusiasm of a Large Audience—An Interesting and Enjoyable Entertainment by Dr. MacArthur.

Rev. Robert S. MacArthur, D. D., of Calvary Baptist Church, New York city, was the lecturer at the eighth entertainment of the current season of the First Presbyterian Church Guild Monday night, and a large audience enjoyed an interesting, instructive and inspiring address. Dr. MacArthur's subject was "America's Place Among the Nations," and in appropriate harmony with the theme and spirit of the occasion was the refusal decoration of flags on the platform. Dr. MacArthur began his address with an allusion to the Russo-Japanese war now in progress, and likened it to the Bible story of David and Goliath. The first part of his address was devoted to America's expansion. He made a comparative illustration of the growth of three great nations—Great Britain, Russia and the United States—during the nineteenth century. The history of America's expansion, he said, began with the Louisiana purchase from the French in 1804, and Dr. MacArthur gave an account of that purchase which differed in many important features from the currently accepted ideas about that historic incident, and some who have been disposed to regard it as one of the chief events of President Jefferson's administration and redounding to the glory of the Jeffersonians, were perhaps somewhat amazed and disappointed with the version of the event dramatically narrated by Dr. MacArthur.

Dr. MacArthur reviewed the several acquisitions of territory by the United States and pointed out that the anti-expansionist had been ever present in the land from the days of the Louisiana purchase to the acquisition of the Philippines. The speaker apparently took much delight in laying the anti-expansionist and the subsequent course of events proving so at variance with the pessimistic utterances and predictions of those who had opposed expansion at various periods in the country's history afforded him an opportunity to vigorously apply the lash.

Dr. MacArthur particularly praised the acquisition of the Philippines, and characterized by the opposition as an investment in polar bears and ice-bergs. He waxed eloquent in his praise of the acquisition by the United States of the Hawaiian Islands, which he termed the strategic point of the Pacific Ocean. In Dr. MacArthur's opinion the commercial and political activities of the world which in ancient times centered in the countries bordering on the Mediterranean Sea, and subsequently shifted to the shores of the Atlantic Ocean, were destined to move to the Pacific Ocean shores and the American flag in the Philippine Islands indicated that the United States was destined to be an important factor in the new theatre of events. Dr. MacArthur clearly saw the guiding Providence in the growth in territory power and influence of the United States, and the providential trend of events would only be realized and appreciated when the great struggle comes for controlling influence in the world's affairs between the policies and peoples represented by Russia and those represented by the Anglo-Saxon race.

Dr. MacArthur spoke of America's place among the nations as an industrial power. Time was, he said, when the European nations regarded America as a great farm, but now they were compelled to view it as a great workshop. He narrated some incidents of American industrial achievements that had surprised the world.

## BOROUGH MEETING

Held in the Council Hall Tuesday Night—Fire Matters, Sinking Fund, and Unpaid Taxes were Topics of Animated Discussion—Nominations Made and Appropriations Voted.

Fire matters, a sinking fund, and unpaid taxes were the three leading topics of discussion at the annual meeting of the citizens and taxpayers of the borough of Glen Ridge, held in the borough hall, Herman street, Tuesday night. Edwin A. Rayner presided at the meeting. The members of the fire department, led by Chief Engineer Smith, endeavored to persuade the taxpayers to increase the fire appropriation from \$2,000 recommended by the Council to \$4,000. When the latter amount was defeated, a motion to hold the borough for \$5,000 for fire purposes was submitted, and this too met with defeat.

The members of the Council declared that the \$1,000 additional this year would put the department on a good footing, and at the same time prevent the tax rate from going beyond the \$3 rate. Chief Smith said that the \$2,000 recommended by the Council, was entirely inadequate, and suggested \$3,000 for immediate equipment.

A communication from the Truck and Hose Company, as to what was needed, was read, after which Councilman Standish as Chairman of the Fire Committee, said that fire matters had been thoroughly gone over by the Council, and that all had agreed that the amount recommended would answer all purposes even though he would like to have made it much larger. He said that there were other departments that needed attention, and the question at issue was to conduct affairs on an economical basis.

Mayor Brewer regretted that the Council could not see its way clear to grant to the department all that was asked, but it was the policy of the present Council, he said, to reduce the debt.

"If the tax rate goes up," added the Mayor, "the Council will be held responsible, and those whose terms expire will go out at the end of the year." The recommendation of the Council was then carried, a motion of Mr. Smith to hold the

## The Banner-Kronold Concerts.

The first of the two subscription concerts announced by the Jarvie Memorial Library will be given in the Memorial Hall Tuesday evening next at 8.15 o'clock. The full program is as follows:

- PART I.  
1. Quartette, Op. 8, Dvorak  
Allegro ma non troppo. Lento, Molto Vivace, Vivace.  
The Banner-Kronold Quartette.  
2. Piano Solo, Liszt  
(a) Berceuse, (b) Moto Perpetuo, (c) Nocturne, (d) Macurka.  
3. Violin Solo, Mr. Ward Stephens.  
4. Quartette, Variations from "Lesperet Quartette,"  
Banner-Kronold Quartette.  
5. Soprano Solo, (a) Maligne Mot, (b) Chanson Provencale, (c) Chanson Provencale.  
6. Cello Solo, (a) At the River, (b) Vito.  
7. Quartette, (a) Treasures, (b) Menuetto.  
Banner-Kronold Quartette.

This commendable effort of the Library managers to afford the people of this vicinity an opportunity to hear some really fine music should receive most hearty support. The reputation of the artists is high, the price of the tickets is low, and the object praiseworthy. The entertainment committee has spared neither expense nor trouble in their arrangements. A large attendance will be very gratifying and will show that the people of Bloomfield not only appreciate good music but take a substantial interest in one of the town's finest institutions—the Jarvie Memorial Library.

## Base-Ball.

The action of Lawrence Hesterfer, the well-known base-ball player, who was graduated from the Watessing amateur team to the Newark professional team, in declining to sign the contract sent him by the Newark Club unless the salary was increased, has been a leading topic in local base-ball circles. With Hesterfer, Moriarity, Pardee, Burke and the probable addition of one or two more star artists, Newark appeared to be well fixed in the twirling department, but now it is a question whether the former two will play with Newark. Hesterfer was sent a contract the other day with an offer of \$175 per month, amount does not just suit the player, who

## THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE

ADDRESSED TO THE CITIZENS AND TAXPAYERS OF GLEN RIDGE.

A Review of Municipal Work of the Year—Economic Measures Proposed—What is Being Done About Parks.

A. R. Brewer, Mayor of the borough of Glen Ridge, has issued the following statement to the taxpayers and citizens of the borough. In regard to the debts of the borough the Mayor says:

"The debts are represented by four classes of bonds and three classes of notes. The bonds are: Road bonds, \$78,000; outlet sewer bonds, \$37,000; lateral sewer bonds, \$12,000; park bonds, \$35,000. The road bonds have been reduced \$7,000 during the past three years by maturity and payment from money received in part from the trolley company in payment for license tax and in part from special appropriations made for that purpose. They will continue to mature and be paid at the rate of \$3,000 per annum.

"The outlet sewer bonds do not begin to mature until 1909; against these bonds there has been accumulating a fund derived from several sources, the chief of which was the premium realized in the sale of sewer bonds over cost of the sewers. The fund now amounts to nearly one-third of the principal of the bonds, and it is increasing by additions of interest. It is by law restricted to use for sewer purposes, and will be reserved as a sinking fund for the redemption of the outlet sewer bonds when they begin to mature.

"The lateral sewer bonds have been reduced \$38,000 since they were issued by collections from property benefited, so that there now remains unpaid but \$12,000 out of the total issue of \$50,000. "The park bonds do not begin to mature until 1920, and require no action at this time. It will be seen from the foregoing that successive Councils have with care and forethought provided for the payment of the funded portion of the debt so far as need be, and that these plans are working towards successful results.

The "floating debt," the Mayor says, is represented by three classes of notes, \$100,000, \$50,000 and \$25,000.

First named, that is, the sidewalk notes, are secured by liens upon the property benefited, and the amount due from that source is more than the amount of the notes; nevertheless, the Council have determined to reduce the notes next year, and to that end to restrict new sidewalk work to cash transactions, so far as possible. The amount of the second class of notes, those for the opening of Park Way, will, upon the completion of that work, be assessable upon the property benefited.

"There remains to be considered one class of indebtedness, that is, the notes issued for general borough purposes against arrears of taxes. In this case no provision has been made for reduction, and the notes have increased from year to year in nearly the same proportion as unpaid taxes have accumulated. They will continue to so increase and become a serious menace unless proper measures are put into operation for their retirement. The measure described in the report of the Finance Committee is a natural and convenient way of dealing with the problem.

Fire matters call for the following comment by the Mayor: "On account of the alarm created by recent fires and in deference to the views of many firemen and citizens, the Council recommend that the appropriation for fire purposes be doubled. This increase is much less than the practical firemen thought necessary, but it will improve the fire apparatus and conveniences materially, and about as far as seems practicable in one year, in view of the unnecessary tax rate.

"The proposals of the Orange Water Company to sell its pipes," Mayor Brewer says, "do not attract the Council on any basis which has yet been suggested. That company has raised its rates to private consumers on the ground that the old rates were unprofitable, and less than those charged in neighboring places, but its charges for public water are not materially changed.

"The Borough Council," the Mayor says, "has proceeded by ordinance to open a new street extending from Woodland to Bloomfield avenue crossing the Glen at the narrowest point, and has purchased the land therefor. The new street will connect sections which now have no line of communication between Ridgewood avenue in the borough and Maple avenue in Montclair, and will open a short cut for fire and other purposes. The bridge over the Glen and railroad track will be built by the county. The borough park scheme has further progressed by the addition of six tracts of land by purchase or condemnation, and one tract of some six, which formed an essential part of the park plan, was

Mr. Ward Stephens, solo pianist at Jarvie Memorial Hall Tuesday evening, March 8th. Come and get an idea of what a Watessing Grand can be made to do. Adv.

## Unpaid Taxes

Question of Unpaid Taxes—Mr. O. Cordley opposed the plan of creating a sinking fund by including in the appropriations for borough purposes an appropriation for creating a sinking fund from which floating indebtedness would be paid. He said that to make an appropriation for general borough purposes in order to reduce the floating debt or create a surplus was wrong in principle and unnecessary. He offered a resolution in accordance with this idea, and it was defeated.

The large amount of unpaid taxes appearing in the collector's report for the year afforded a topic for animated discussion. A resolution offered by Mr. Cordley was adopted, and which provides for the publication in the annual borough report the names of people in arrears for taxes. Mr. Cordley, in supporting his resolution, said that the borough of Madison did not have any back taxes in 1901, because the names of all delinquents had been formerly published.

Exception was made to Mr. Cordley's remarks by Councilman Lockwood, who said that a man's property could not be sold until all the requirements of law had been carried out, and he could not see why the adding of interest to a man's taxes yet to be collected was wrong. Mr. Lockwood said further that Mr. Cordley was endeavoring to make it appear that the collector of taxes was remiss in his duty. Mr. Cordley said he had no such intention, but on the contrary, believed he was doing all in his power to have delinquents pay up.

Mayor Brewer believed that something should be done to collect back taxes. The following nominations were then made: Councilmen for three years, Walter E. Wallace and A. H. Tyson; Assessor for three years, Hampton L. Johnstone; Collector for three years, Frank H. Benson; Commissioner of Appeals for three years, Edgar A. Moss; Councilman Lockwood and Standish, whose terms expired, declined to run again. The following appropriations were voted: Lighting Streets and Public Places, \$4,000.00; Support of Police Department, 3,200.00; Maintenance and Equipment of Fire Department, 2,000.00; Regulating, Cleaning, Sprinkling and Keeping in Repair Streets and Sidewalks, 4,000.00; Relief of the Poor, 100.00; Water for Extinction of Fire, etc., 2,600.00; Interest on Road Improvement Bonds, 3,200.00; Interest on Park Bonds, 1,400.00; Interest on Outlet Sewer Bonds, 1,400.00; Maintenance and Operation of Sewerage System, 550.00; General Incidental Expenses of the Borough, including Maps, Surveys and Printing, 3,800.00; New Stone Roads, Cobble Gutters and Crosswalks, 400.00; Baldwin Street and Ridgewood Avenue Storm Drain, 1,600.00; Interest on Money Borrowed in Anticipation of Taxes, 1,200.00; \$11,650.00.

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